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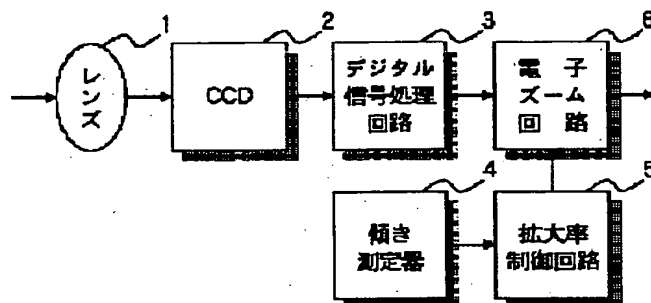
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TITLE : IMAGE PICKUP DEVICE



ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To automatically correct distortion caused by inclination of an image pickup device by operating the expansion scale of a picked-up image corresponding to the focal distance and inclination of the image pickup device and changing the expansion scale by controlling an electronic zoom means.

SOLUTION: An inclination detector 4 measures the angle of inclining the main body of image pickup device to a vertical axis. An expansion scale control circuit 5 operates the expansion scale to correct the optical distortion caused by the inclination of the image pickup device from the focal distance from an optical processor and the inclination of the image pickup device and inputs the expansion scale to an electronic zoom circuit 6. According to the expansion scale from the expansion scale control circuit 5, the electronic zoom circuit 6 performs the electronic zoom processing of an input image. Concretely, the electronic zoom circuit 6 is composed of an image memory, memory read/write control circuit and interpolating operation circuit and performs the expanding or reducing processing of the image by performing interpolating operation or thinning between adjacent lines or pixels according to the expansion scale. Therefore, the distortion can be automatically corrected without troubling any user.

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